FARM NEWS

By J. A. Smith, County Agent

Plant Disease Identification

During the next few months, there will be many unusual things happening to plants being grown in the home garden and on the farm. To help you determine what type disease is present and to control it, it will be necessary in many cases to send specimens to the Plant Disease Clinic for determination. Here are a few pointers to help you do a good job in collecting the samples.

(1) Collect the whole diseased plant as above the ground symptoms may be caused by root trouble. Dig, don't pull.

(2) Collect several plants showing various stages of the trouble, especially the early stages and, if possible, a healthy plant. Wrap the plants with moistened paper or cloth and place in a plastic bag if possible.

Diseased plants brought to this office will be forwarded to Blacksburg at no cost to the farmer.

Trap Moles

Now is a good time to begin catching moles that are making runs through the garden or lawn area. In some sections of the state, moles have already been trapped in spite of the cool weather.

Trapping is still the best procedure. It is effective because moles do not increase as fast as other animals and often only 2 or 3 moles are all that are troublesome.

Permanent runways can be found along fences and permanent shrubbery. Whenever a burrow extends out from such places, it is likely to be a feeding trail. Mole traps are easy to set, but remember that they will not do a job unless obstructions such as stones and twigs are removed. They should be set across the runway. Many people find that the most satisfactory method of trapping moles is to tamp the runways lightly, and the following morning, observe which ones have been re-opened. This is an excellent way of determining which are in use. Two or three traps are much more effective than one and it may be advisable for several neighbors to buy several traps together.

Feeding Bees

A number of farmers in this county maintain hives for a home supply of honey. Now is the time of year when they will need some attention as the brood rearing has begun.

A hive consumes about 12 pounds of honey during the winter months. However, the food requirements increase when the rearing of young begins. The rearing of young will gradually increase as pollen, nectar and water are brought to the hive. It takes about a cell of honey and a cell of pollen to produce a bee. Therefore, food requirements are heavy during March, April and May.

It is suggested that you check the hive and if there is less than 15 pounds of honey, feeding should begin. A sugar syrup made up of equal parts of sugar and water makes a good stubstitute for honey.

Enough Fertilizer to Pay

Recent pasture studies at the USDA Dairy Field Station in Montana, have brought to light some considerations that livestock and dairymen here should adhere to.

Fertilized pastures — compared with unfertilized pastures produced 400 pounds more TDN in 1951, 636 more in 1952, 1158 more in 1953, and 1707 more in 1954. The latter represents a 44% increase over the output of the unfertilized pasture.

Only heavily fertilized pasture out produced the unfertilized from the viewpoint of profit over fertilizer outlay. On pasture treated the first year, with 350 pounds per acre, the fertilizer cost $7.50 more per acre than the pasture was worth (in terms of value equivalent to alfalfa hay). Second year pasture production was worth $2.50 less than the cost of 400 pounds of fertilizer per acre, with 550 pounds per acre, pasture value exceeded fertilizer costs by $5.03, and in the fourth year, fertilized at the same rate, the pasture was worth $19.73 above fertilizer costs.

Although this experiment was conducted with pasture, the same would no doubt be true when considering fertilization of alfalfa. Where pastures are rotated, a minimum of 500 pounds of an 0-14-14 should be used to maintain pasture standards. Where rotation is not in practice, a top dressing of 700 to 800 pounds should be used. Alfalfa should be top dressed with 800 pounds of an 0-10-20 in most cases. There are certain conditions where an 0-14-14 might be profitable, however, alfalfa is a big user of potash and therefore an abundant supply should be present. Annual top dressings of alfalfa are important in maintaining stands which give the plant vigor to withstand disease and insect infestations.

Stem Rust Control

Stem rust on small grains such as wheat, oats, barley and rye, is an important disease. It can be controlled by destroying the intermediate host which is a barberry plant.

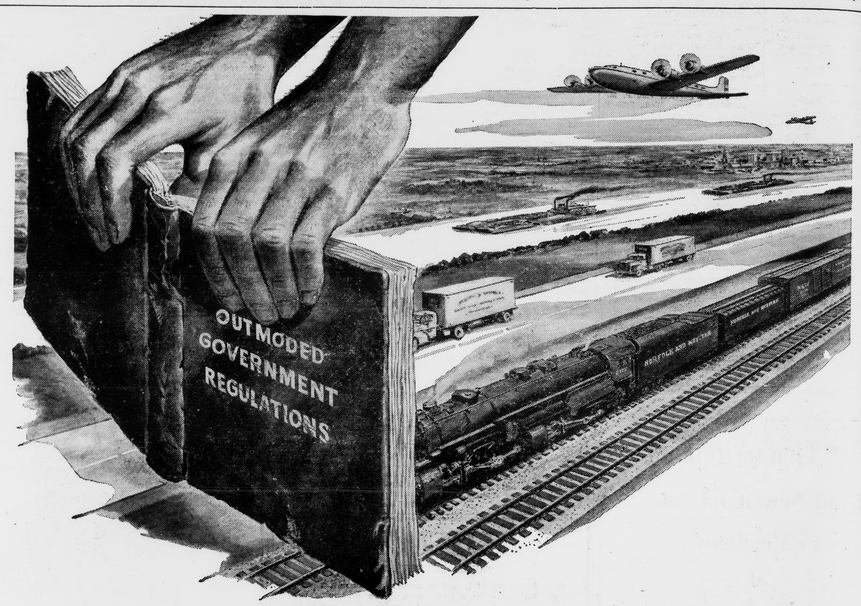
In 1955, over 10 million barberry plants were eradicated in 14 counties of Virginia.

The rust spores are produced on this plant early in the carried by wind to s Once the disease is spreads from plant t from field to field. A berry may initiate a which causes severe l crops.

Not all barberries stem rust. The common European barberry and native to this section re the Alleghany Barberry the ones that should b

It would be well t lying areas and fence presence of these plants be controlled with chem ed at the base of the parts 2-4,17 and one pa with fuel oil, are doing This is mixed at the r pounds acid equivalent dred gallons of oil. If cut off, amate may be the canes and an excell cured.

Most of the countries apparently will not nee food offered them by Eisenhower. Spain Greece may be exception



LET'S GET THEM OUT OF THE WAY!

YOU WILL BENEFIT

Competitive pricing, practiced without restrictions by most American businesses, is denied the transportation industry by outmoded government regulations. The result is that shippers frequently must pay higher freight rates than otherwise would be necessary.

These higher charges are passed down the normal channel of product distribution — to wholesalers, retailers and, finally, to you! For freight transportation costs are included in the price you pay for goods shipped into your community.

President Eisenhower's special Advisory Committee on Transportation, composed of Commerce Secretary Weeks and other high-ranking government officials who have no personal or business connections with any transportation companies, have made recommendations on our country's transportation policies and practices which are the basis of legislation now being studied by Congress. Passage of these recommendations (popularly called the Weeks Report) would permit railroads and other forms of regulated transportation greater freedom in basing tariffs on their own competitive merits, at the same time allowing the government to retain authority to prevent charges which are unreasonably high, low or discriminatory. It would give the railroads no advantage which other forms of transportation do not already have or would not receive.

Improvements in transportation service and efficiency will accrue naturally under this freer system of open competition, and the resulting benefits will be passed on to producers, shippers, retailers — and, ultimately, to you, the consuming public, who in the end pay transportation costs.

Urge your Congressman to help get outmoded regulations out of the way — you will benefit.

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ome Agent's Notes

By Mrs. B. G. Anderson
Home Demonstration Agent

Good Grooming

"Good Grooming" is one of the topics recently discussed in 4-H meetings, the following on good grooming will be of interest to 4-H Club members and others as well.

The Clean Look

Cleanliness is one of the virtues we take for granted—or should, for boys and eevn girls in their teens sometimes need to be reminded. Cleanliess is one of the cannot virtues, for its lack is so evident in a dozen ways.

In modern homes, easy-to-keep bathrooms encourage the use of the daily tub or shower Even without these conveniences or an abundance of hot and running wateh, the daily bath is possible and imperative. If circumstances dictate a sponge bath, it may be taken at night when time is limited and may be supplemented by a morning bath plus a brisk rubdown with a course terry towel.

Clean Frangrance

To help retain bath-freshness, use are deodorant soaps whose medicinal ingredient destroys bacteria believed to react with perspiration to cause this characteristic and unpleasant odor. Deodorant powder temporarily serves the same purpose, also gives the skin a soft smoothness. Body lotions and skin refresher, are cooling and invigorating, also may be used by scented.

Imperceptible perspiration occurs continuously over the entire body surface in the amount of one quart daily. Where the sweat glands are larger and more numerous as under the arms and on the soles of the feet special precautions are needed to check the flow of perspiration or to deodorize it.

Deodorants and antiperspirants are available in a variety of forms and strengths so as to permit a choice to fit all needs or preferences.

Antiperspirants both deodorize and temporarily stop the flow of perspiration. They are available as liquid or cream form. The latter are smoothed on, or in stick form applied directly to the skin. Liquid antiperspirants are packaged in roll-on, self-applicator containers, in plastic squeeze spray bottles, and in applicator bottles. As a general, liquid antiperspirants are more concertrated than the cream types. Strength, however, may vary among brands, so it is well to experiment with different ones to find one both effective and nonirritating. It is always wise to follow the directions with any products, which for antiperspiarnts usually means applying at night or when it is possible to be quiet long enough for the astringent.

Daintily Clean Clothes

Clothes, especially those worn next to the body, can be no cleaner than you are. The daily part of imperceptible perspiration mentioned above, is exuded from the pores all over the body. Naturally, it is absorbed by the clothing. The reason for the washing-after-each-wearing rule for lingerie and hose is obvious. Both modern fabrics and styling of today's lingerie, plus easy-to-use detergents make nightly sudsing quick and easy. If dripping space is limited, such items also may go in the family wash, with appropriate care.

Collars, cuffs, dickeys, gloves, scarfs, and white or pastel blouses need frequent, if not daily, laundering. The number of times such costume accessories can be worn depends upon the amount of soot or other dirt in the air. Dresses and sweaters which it is not practical in terms of cleaning costs, or even the washable ones in terms of time, to clean after each wearing even though they are in partial contact with the skin, need to be protected from soil, body oil, odor, or staining. Underarm shields, back protectors, sanitary aprons or similar garments, plus cover-up aprons for special tasks, are routine for the well-groomed girl.

Powder-marked necklines on dark clothes in winter or sun-tan lotions or powder on light spring and summer things are a special problem. If easily washed collars, scarfs, or blouses are not the solution, it is better to limit the use of these telltale markers to a dainty, well-groomed appearance.

Lenten Season

This is the season for seafood. Following are a few recipes which may be used during Lenten season.

Baked Fish —
3 or 4 pounds fish dressed
1½ teaspoon salt
4 tablespoons butter or bacon drippings
3 slices bacon (optional)

Clean, wash and dry fish. Rub inside and out with salt. Stuff if desired with plain bread dressing and sew opening with coarse thread to hold in stuffing. Place fish in greased baking pan and lay slices of bacon over top. Bacon slices may be omitted during Lent. Bake in moderate oven, 350 degreees, F., for 40 to 60 minutes or until fish flakes when tested with fork. If fish seems dry while baking, baste occasionally with drippings. Serve immediately on hot platter, plain or with sauce.

Tartar Sauce

3 cups mayonnaise
1-2 cup finely chopped onions
1-2 cup chopped stuffed olives
1 whole canned pimiento, chopped
1-2 cup sweet or dill pickles, chopped.

Combine all ingredients and mix well. If a tartar sauce is desired, add a little lemon juice or vinegar.

LEE HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB

The Lee Home Demonstration Club held its monthly meeting in the home of Mrs. Lorrene Lucado, with Mrs. Ethel Lucado as cohostess. There were thirteen members present. Mrs. D. M. Wood gave the demonstration. She made "Texas Jambalya" and Mrs. Nellie Beale made "Frozen Lemon Fluff."

The entire club held a discussion on "Safety," especially on the highways. The clubs plan more work on "Safety" in the future. Mrs. Lola Morris gave a talk on "Mentally Disturbed Children." Later she gave each member booklets to be studied at home.

The April meeting will be held with Mrs. Bessie Torrence.

Nimitz, as 71, says all war is wrong.

About Your Home

By Frances Dell

If your house is beginning to look old, shabby and drab, it is time to paint it. Whether or not you give it a full basement-to-roof job or just a touch-up work, you will find you can give your home a complete new personality.

Knowing what paint and equipment to buy is half the battle. The first, and most important step is preparation of the surface to take and hold the paint. For this you will need rough sandpaper, steel wool, or a wire brush or a scraper. You'll want ladders and cross planking for the upper reaches of the house.

In addition to the paint, you will need extra cans or mixing, paddles for stirring, strainers for removing lumps and clothes for wiping up spatters. If possible, have some drop cloths for protecting your shrubbery and porch roof.

Buy only good brushes. A brush four-and-one-half to five inches across is best for painting large areas. A sash brush is needed for narrow strips and a brush one-and-one-half to two inches wide is best for the trim.

You will need some paint thinner to clean your brushes and some linseed oil to break them in. Surfaces to be painted must be absolutely dry.

Check to see if any wood replacements are needed under the eaves, around window heads, and sills on posts or steps, etc.

Find out about the many new kinds of paint and choose one that is made to meet your needs.

The Senate Armed Services Committee has named a "watchdog" group to determine whether the United States is lagging behind the Soviet Union in missile development.

Spain suspends all exports of olive oil.

Hixburg

Hixburg, March 12.- On Thursday, Mr. Ernest Carson flew from Richmond to Corpus Christi, Texas, to visit Dr. and Mrs. Joe Alsop.

Mr. Crote Carson and family, of Richmond were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Carson.

Mr. DeWitt Goin was taken to a Lynchburg hospital on Saturday.

Miss Nannie Belle Goin is confined to the house with a virus infection.

Mr. Curtis Scruggs and family have movtd into the Jack Marshall home.

Mr. and Mrs. Watkins McPhillips, of Richmond were week-end guests of his parents.

Mr. Jim Erwin, of Goldsboro, and Mrs. W. M. Erwin, Sr., are expected to visit in the home of Mr. W. D. Hix, Jr. for several days this week.

NEWS FOR VETERANS

Veterans of the Korean and post-Korean conflict period are losing valuable GI insurance rights because they are filing applications special five-year term policies four months after separation instead of within 120 days.

The law grants only 120 days in which to apply for this non-convertible term policy without medical examination, the Veterans Administration said.

SPECIAL FLASH:

1956 is "OPERATION HOME IMPROVEMENT" year, "repair or re-model your home" and have THIRTY-SIX MONTHS TO PAY. No "government red-tape" just a straight loan plan to re-pay for your modernization.

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